GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3736
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2015
Watershed Development Project
Kateel Shri Nalin Kumar

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has introduced Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Area (WDPSCA) scheme in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the watershed development projects taken up under the scheme in the country during the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;

(d) whether all the projects selected under the scheme were completed as per the schedule;

(e) if so, the details of the projects completed and the projects under construction; and

(f) whether the Government has conducted any review of the implementation of the scheme and if so, the details and outcome thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

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(a) to (e): Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare has been implementing the Special Central Assistance to State Plan Scheme of Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSCA), to protect hill slopes of shifting cultivation areas, prevention of further land degradation and also for improving social economic status of Jumia families in seven states, namely Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura, in the North-Eastern Region of the country. Under this scheme various soil and water conservation measures, along with livelihood support interventions were implemented on watershed approach basis with 100% Central assistance. Upto March, 2012, an area of 5.9 lakh ha. has been developed with an expenditure of `505.80 crore under this scheme. Scheme was discontinued with effect from 1st April, 2012, due to launching of a flagship scheme; namely; Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) in Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development, for development of rainfed and degraded areas included shifting cultivation in the country. From 2015-16, IWMP has been amalgamated as a component of the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY).

(f): Evaluation studies conducted by various outside agencies revealed decrease in shifting cultivation area, reduction in per family shifting cultivation areas, besides increase in productivity of agricultural & horticultural crops including livestock and inland fisheries.

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